

REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's rejections as set forth in the Office Action of August 12, 2003, Applicants have canceled claim 1 and amended claims 2-6, 11, 18, 31, 47, 50-51, 53, 57-59, and 62-64. Claims 2-89 remain pending.

The amendment to claim 2 rewrites that claim in independent form, and as suggested by the Examiner, this places claim 2 and its dependent claims in allowable condition. All claims previously dependent on claim 1 are now dependent on claim 2, and hence, all such claims are believed to be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 3, 4, 6, and 57. Claim 1 is canceled; Applicants take no position as to the substantive reasons for the Examiner's rejection.

With respect to claim 64, Applicants have added language to clarify that the template of the claim preamble includes an operational parameter, the term used in the claim limitations. This interpretation is supported by the specification as filed at paragraph [0103]. No new matter is added by this amendment. In light of this clarification, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the patentability of claims 64-89; they are now believed to be definite and patentable.

With regard to the Examiner's statement that the declaration is defective for failing to include the mailing or post office address of each inventor, Applicants call the Examiner's attention to the Application Data Sheet filed by Applicants on February 28, 2002, in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts. As authorized by MPEP 602.01-.02 (as referenced by the Examiner in the Office Action), the addresses may be provided in an application data sheet and need not be included directly in the declaration. The Application Data Sheet filed by Applicants includes addresses for each of the inventors. Applicants believe the requirements have been met, and are willing to provide a copy of the Application Data Sheet as filed if it is missing from USPTO files.

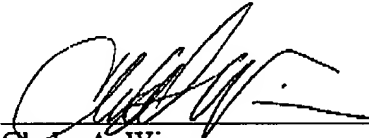
Accordingly, Applicants believe that the amendments contained herein address all of the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action of August 12, 2003. Applicants respectfully requests examination of the subject application with a view toward allowance.

As no new claims have been added by this Amendment, Applicants believe that no claim fees are currently due. Applicant respectfully requests that **Deposit Account No. 50-2268** be charged for the requested three-month extension of time. Authorization to charge any additional necessary fees to the Deposit Account, or to credit any overpayment, is hereby granted.

If a telephone interview would be considered advantageous to advance prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully Submitted,

April 23, 2004
Dated


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